



PATENT  
9D-HR-19761

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Mathur et al. : Art Unit: 3636  
 Serial No.: 10/074,245 : Examiner: Not yet assigned  
 Filed: February 12, 2002 :  
 For: SPILL PROOF SHELF :  
 ASSEMBLY METHOD AND :  
 STRUCTURE :

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non Fee Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicants hereby request entry of the following amendment prior to examination of the above-referenced application:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 5, please delete paragraph [0022] and replace with the following paragraph:

[0022] Rear tab 112 extends laterally outward away from shelf longitudinal axis 106 (shown in Figure 3) from side edge 102 for a second distance less than the first distance for which forward stop tab 110 extends. In one embodiment, rear tab 112 extends laterally outward a distance equal to distance for which forward stop tab 110 extends. Additionally, rear tab 112 extends parallel with axis 106 and rear tab 112 includes a forward lip 120 and rear portion 122. Anti-spill guard 58 extends obliquely from a top surface 124 of rim 56, and rounded forward edge 60 extends downward from rim top surface 124. Anti spill guard 58 laterally extends above rim top surface 124 substantially the entire width of rim 56, and includes flared sides 132 to